



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Chiyoaki IJIMA

Group Art Unit: 2815

Application No.: 10/006,660

Examiner: M. LANDAU

Filed: December 10, 2001

Docket No.: 111350

For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed February 3, 2003, the period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicant provisionally elects Species VIII, Figures 32, claims 1 and 18-20, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-20 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Election of Species Requirement and to examine all claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kevin M. McKinley
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JAO:KMM/jfl

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: March 21, 2003

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